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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/562,718	06/02/2006	Abbas Razavi	F-873 (31223.00103)	8618

25264 7590 09/27/2006

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EXAMINER

LU, C CAIXIA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1713

DATE MAILED: 09/27/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/562,718	RAZAVI, ABBAS	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Caixia Lu	1713	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _____ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-17 and 22-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Shamshoum et al. (US 6,143,683).

Shamshoum teaches a process for the preparation of isotactic and syndiotactic polypropylene blend by polymerization propylene in the presence of a catalyst composition prepared by supporting an isotactic metallocene catalyst and a syndiotactic metallocene catalyst on a common support (col. 2, lines 50-59; col. 4, lines 15-29; and Examples 5 and 12). Examples 5 and 12 demonstrate an isotactic and syndiotactic polypropylene blend containing 90% of isotactic polypropylene with $M_w/M_n=160/60=2.7$, Shanshoum's polypropylene blend meets the limitation of the instant claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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4. Claims 18-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shamshoum et al. (US 6,143,683) in view of Demain (WO 00/60148, its US family US 6,646,051 is referred to for convenience hereinafter).

Shamshoum's teaching is relied upon as shown above.

It is noted that Shamshoum does not expressly demonstrate the process of extruding fiber from the blend. However, extruding fiber from the isotactic and syndiotactic polypropylene blend is well known in the art and is acknowledged in Shamshoum (col. 2, lines 3-5 and 27-29) and such is also taught in Demain. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a skilled artisan at the time the invention was made to extrude Shamshoum's blend to provide a fiber with improved mechanical properties and in the absence of any showing criticality and unexpected results.

It is also noted that Shamshoum does not expressly teach the preparations of the isotactic and syndiotactic polypropylenes in separate reaction zones and then blending them together to provide the polypropylene blend. However, such a process are conventionally practice in the art in order to better control the properties such as molecular weight, molecular distribution and proportion of the individual polymer component in the blend. For example, Demain's isotactic and syndiotactic polypropylenes are prepared separately and then blended together to provide the blend. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a skilled artisan at the time the invention was made to modify Shamshoum's process to prepare the isotactic and syndiotactic polypropylenes in separate reaction zones for the benefits cited above and in the absence of any showing criticality and unexpected results.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Caixia Lu whose telephone number is (571) 272-1106. The examiner can normally be reached from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful and the matter is urgent, the examiner's supervisor, David Wu, can be reached at (571) 272-1114. The fax numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1700.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Caixia Lu', is positioned above the printed name and title.

Caixia Lu, Ph. D.
Primary Examiner